BART

BARTalk

Volume 9 May–June, 1989 Number 3

Can you "assault" a police officer just by playing the violin? Maybe so, if you're fiddle-playing Henny Youngman, the comedian featured in BART commercials and advertisements. Holding their ears in mock discomfort are officers Spencer Thorpe, left, and George Ennis. The self-effacing comedian was at BART's 12th Street Station last month for the filming of a second round of "Take Your BART... Please!" commercials, which are credited with projecting a more human touch to BART.

Paul Lamoreaux

BART Engineer Practices Ancient Art With Up-to-Date Methods

Paul Lamoreaux is used to answering the question "Where am I?" and he does it by setting up triangles in the sky.

Lamoreaux, real estate and right-of-way engineer for BART, devotes his time to pinpointing the exact locations of property lines. He is frequently called upon to give expert testimony in legal proceedings as to where one property ends and another begins.

He uses a state-of-the-art piece of surveying equipment that lets him practice the ancient art of triangulation to locate his position, but instead of taking readings on an object in the distance, he makes use of signals from four satellites orbiting in space hundreds of miles out from the earth.

"They're the same satellites that are used by submarines and other vessels at sea," Lamoreaux explains.

Lamoreaux, who joined BART in 1965, when the District's 71.5 miles of track were being surveyed, was featured recently on the cover of Public Works magazine. He and his wife, Pat, prefer to take their vacations - you guessed it - by rail.

Bernard Steps Down After Ten Years As BART's General Manager

Keith Bernard, who announced his resignation as BART's General Manager late last year, spent his last day on the job on April 30.

The 50-year-old Bernard had filled BART's top management post since January, 1979, and prior to that had been in charge of planning, budgeting and research. He first came to work for the District in 1970.

During his tenure the District improved its record of on-time performance, boosted passenger miles and brought its operating ratio to the 50 percent level.

Bernard oversaw the District's capacity expansion program, initiated a joint development project and guided the regional extension program.

In a message to all BART employees, Bernard paid tribute to everyone with whom he'd worked over the years. "Together," Bernard wrote, "we have tackled epic problems and achieved notable results."

He expressed gratitude "for the support and hard work that you have put into BART" and described his years with the District as "rich and rewarding."

His first job at BART, he wrote, was to manage a project looking toward a future BART link to San Francisco International Airport. Now, thanks to an agreement that he helped put together, a BART airport link is in the first stages of engineering. "For me, he said, "the wheel has come full circle."

NEW GM DESIGNATED

Just as BARTalk went to press, BART's Board of Directors designated Frank J. Wilson as the District's new General Manager.

See Board Designates—page 2

Ready to take to the stump speakers road are Joe Van Overveen, left, Wayside Engineering, and Edwin Kung, Procurement. They posed with Keith Bernard recently upon receiving certificates of completion of BART's speakers-training program. Certified BART speakers speak to community groups throughout the area. Although Van Overveen just recently completed the program, he has officially represented the District and spoken to groups and associations for several years, long before the speakers program was established.

Members of the Public Affairs Department, with the aid of Art Richardson, Documentation, teamed up to present a "Big Five-O" plaque to Keith Bernard to mark his 50th birthday.

SCUTTLEBART

Need any advice on impromptu speaking? You might get some good tips from Dick Chase of Information Systems, who has been a member of BART's Toastmasters Club for three years.

Recently he won first place in impromptu speaking at a regional meeting that included speakers from throughout the Bay Area. "You walk out on stage, they hand you the topic and you've got exactly two and a half minutes to speak on that topic only," Chase relates. His topic was, "Life — A Great Adventure."

Chase says he immediately thought of a story he'd read not long before about O.J. Simpson, who was reared in San Francisco's Potrero District and went on to fame and fortune in sports and business. "I tied the topic to O.J.'s experience," Chase says, "and ended up with about ten seconds under the dead- line."

Chase has developed a lot of skill as an impromptu speaker, based on the first-place finishes he's racked up. What do you do if you're absolutely stuck for an idea? "You sit down," Chase says with a chuckle. At the same meeting, Kent Barcus, Information Systems, was elected a Toastmasters district parliamentarian and Vivian Faye, Legal, was elected a divisional lt. governor.

BART Board Designates Frank J. Wilson As General Manager

BART's Board of Directors designated Frank J. Wilson on May 23 to be the District's new General Manager.

Wilson, 41, comes to BART with 17 years of experience in the transportation field, including the position of Senior Deputy Executive Director of Operations for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), the second-largest public transit system in the nation.

Prior to working for CTA, Wilson spent ten years with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority in Philadelphia.

The new General Manager received a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Drexel University, Philadelphia, and a Master of Science, transportation engineering from the University of Pennsylvania.

Pat Henry, Emergency Vehicle Operator, proudly displays a commendation from BART Police for helping Officer Ethridge (Sonny) Marks subdue a man at BART's MacArthur Station. Marks had just arrested the man, who stood over six feet and weighed close to 225 pounds, and then pursued him as he tried to flee. Henry saw Marks tackle the man and joined the scuffle, getting an arm around the man's neck. Both Henry and Marks are six-footers-plus and weigh more than 200 pounds.

BARTalk

A publication for and about the employees of the San Francisco Bay Area RapidTransit District.

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Cloning A Clown

A Circus Vargas performer puts the finishing touches to Sy Mouber's make-up for Mouber's one-time appearance as a clown for the May 2 performance at the Fremont Fashion Center. Mouber is Manager of BART's Public Information Office.

Ken Meyers presents a special BART-rail plaque to Keith Bernard, on behalf of himself and his co-workers in Buildings and Grounds.

Bob Davis, left, a service technician at the Concord Yard, hands a check for $70 to Bill Strain, Temple Recorder for the AAHMES Shrine Temple in Oakland, with smiles of approval from Jack Dominic, Assistant Temple Director, and Pat Patubo of BART's Support and Analysis Division. The donation consisted of the profits earned on belt buckles designed with the BART insignia. The buckles were sold by Davis, Patubo and Walt Cruz, a service technician at the Hayward Yard. The three men selected the Shriners for their donation because of the charitable treatment for children and burn victims at Shrine hospitals.

Several of the men who helped design and build BART's original system got together recently for an updated look at BART facilities. Four consulting engineers, all former BART employees and all members of the Way and Structures Committee of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), met with Vince Mahon, Power and Way, and Matt McDole and Bob Mix of Engineering and Construction. Standing are, from left, John Fendel, Erl Tillman, Mahon, Bo McCutchen, Mix and McDole. On the track is Ed Gregerman. Mahon is chairman of the APTA committee.

The 75th C-Car, marking the halfway point in BART's acquisition of 150 new cars, was delivered to BART in April. Shown with congratulations banners are, from left, BART Inspectors Bob Amor, Ken Gregory, Jim McDaniels, Tom Jefferies and Ken Perez.

Plan for BART's Future – Have You Read It?

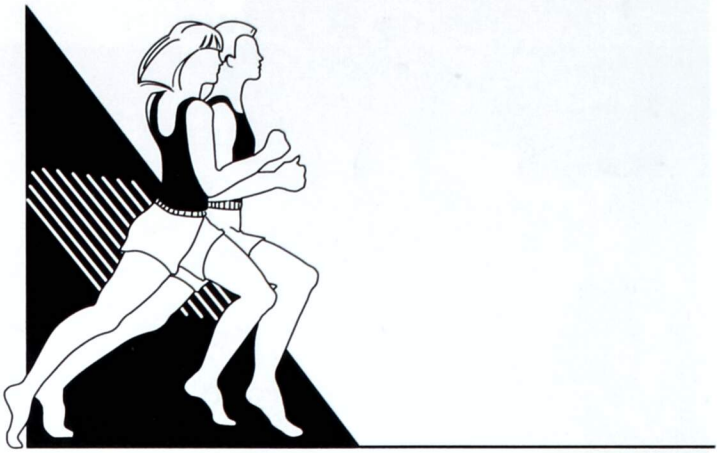
BART continues to give increased attention to the needs of its passengers, with better access to the system and improved performance.

All BART employees play a role in providing better service to the District's existing and future patrons, whether or not they are in daily contact with its passengers.

A recently-completed plan that looks ahead over the next five years and gives details about BART's goals for better service, plus the programs to reach those goals, is available from the Public Information Office at LMA. Call x7115 and ask for a copy. Read it and talk it over with your co-workers. You may be surprised how your job fits in with BART's goals for the future.

BART's Runners, *Hooray!*

A hoist of the champagne bottle by Sharla Scott, Records, marked the completion of this year's participation by BART in the Examiner's Bay-to-Breakers run. Shown with Sharla are, clockwise, Carol Winstead, a friend of Jocelyn Tabiolo; Tabiolo, Controllership; Philip Petagara, Grounds; Thomas Vasquez, Linda Vasquez's husband; José-Ramiro Salazar, Legal; Paul Lung, Treasury; Richard O'Campo, another friend of Tabiolo; Pete Avalos, Toolroom; Lawrence Tabiolo, Tabiolo's brother; Mark Deloso, Documentation, who designed and built the BART running train; and Vasquez. Runners not shown were Tony Wai, Treasury, and Ed Petagara, Philip Petagara's brother. The team ran — and walked — the route in 1 hour, 54 minutes, slightly over last year's time.



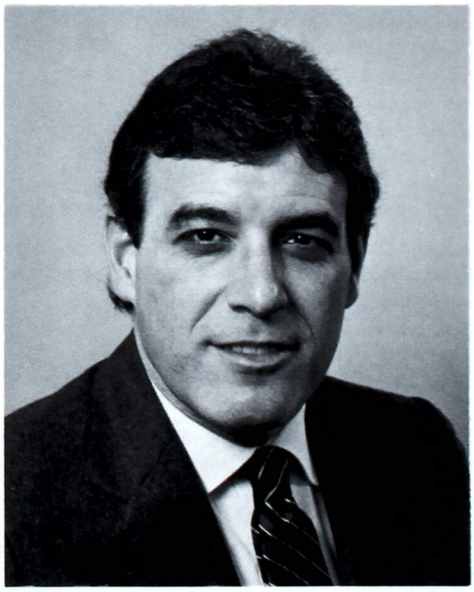
On the Tube

Vince Mahon, left, Manager of Power and Way, and Tony Czajkowski, Track Geometry Car supervisor, are interviewed by Channel 5's Sherry Hu, for a news segment on BART's nighttime track maintenance operations. BART's geometry car, which went into service late in 1982, was built to BART-prepared specifications at a cost of $834,000. The car is equipped to measure the alignment and elevation of BART's 143 miles of mainline track and to report any deviations from the District's parameters.

Gloria Yasitis, right, and Florenzi Grant enjoyed a lunch and cruise on the City of San Francisco on Secretaries Day in April. Yasitis was one of 50 secretaries picked from throughout the Bay Area for the event, sponsored by radio station KOIT. She was nominated by her boss, Tom Sheehan, Manager of Information Systems, and asked department colleague Grant to join her.

BART Employees Respond to "We Want Your Blood"

Life! That's what 106 employees of BART, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments provided during their annual blood drive last month. BART employees donated more blood than in any previous drive. BART recruiters were: Larry Danner, BART Police; Vivian Faye, Legal; Tony Gieda, Wayside Maintenance Engineering; Pat Hoar, BART Librarian; Vicky Jennings, Oakland Shops; Al Johnson, Field Services; Julie Olmedo, Planning; Art Richardson, Documentation; and Lulu Watts, Budget.



Frank J. Wilson, newly-designated BART General Manager. See Story on page 2.